

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A process for obtaining a synthetic organic aromatic heterocyclic rod fiber or film with high tensile strength and/or modulus comprising spinning in a coagulation medium a synthetic organic polymer to an aromatic heterocyclic rod fiber or obtaining the synthetic organic polymer as an aromatic heterocyclic rod film, followed by loading the fiber or film in the presence of a processing aid, at a temperature below the boiling point of the processing aid and above  $-50^{\circ}\text{C}$ , at a tension of 10 to 95 % of the fiber or film breaking strength, followed by removing the processing aid and/or performing a heating step at a tension of 10 to 95 % of the fiber or film breaking strength.

2. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 1, wherein the as-spun fiber or the as-obtained film is subjected to the loading step prior to any thermal mechanical treatment.

3. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein the loading step is performed between  $-18^{\circ}\text{C}$  and room temperature.

4. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein the heating step is performed at  $100^{\circ}\text{C}$  or higher.

5. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein the as-spun fiber or the as-obtained film is subjected to a treatment step with the processing aid in the gas or vapor phase at a temperature between  $50^{\circ}$  and  $300^{\circ}\text{C}$ , between the loading step and the heating step.

6. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein the processing aid is an aqueous solution.

7. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein the processing aid is removed simultaneously with performing the heating step.
8. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein the synthetic organic heterocyclic rod fiber or film is a PIPD fiber or film.
9. (Withdrawn) A synthetic organic fiber obtainable by the process of claim 1, wherein the fiber is PIPD with a linear filament density between 0.1 and 500 dtex and an average tensile strength higher than 3200 mN/tex.
10. (Withdrawn) The synthetic organic fiber of claim 9, wherein the average tensile strength is higher than 3500 mN/tex.
11. (Withdrawn) A synthetic organic film obtainable by the process of claim 1, wherein the modulus of the film is at least 14 GPa.
12. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 3, wherein the loading step is performed between 0 and 20°C.
13. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 5, wherein the as-spun fiber or the as-obtained film is subjected to a treatment step with the processing aid in the gas or vapor phase at a temperature between 80° and 100° C, between the loading step and the heating step.
14. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 6, wherein the processing aid is water.
15. (Withdrawn) The synthetic organic film according to claim 11, wherein the modulus of the film is at least 20 GPa.